

Thank you for your interest in the FMHS Dance Company!

Please read through all of the information included in this packet. Please e-mail Liz Hagen at dukeshagene@fortmillschools.org if you have any questions. All information is also listed on the Dance Team (Visual & Performing Arts) page within the Fort Mill High School website and on our BAND app.

There are 3 parts within the FMHS Dance Program: Dance classes that are available to anyone who would like to sign up, an auditioned Competitive Dance Team, and an auditioned Dance Company. Dance Team & Dance Company have commitment components beyond the regular school day, so please read all of the attached information carefully. There will be an information meeting for interested students and parents on **Monday, April 18th** at 6:00 pm in the R wing Commons at FMHS.

Each candidate must submit the following by **Friday, May 13th** to participate in auditions.

- Candidate Application & Parent Waiver (Google Forms)
- 3 Teacher Evaluations (**current year school teachers only**) *these should NOT be submitted by the candidate!!! Dance teacher recommendations are not necessary. Completion of the Google Form is the preferred method **OR** you may provide the teacher with a stamped envelope addressed to:

Liz Dukes-Hagen
215 N. Hwy 21 Byp
Fort Mill, SC 29715

Skills for FMDT:

- Triple pirouettes, coupé turns, Turns a la seconde (with spot changes)
- Grand Battements and Leg-Grab-Holds
- Sauté de chat, second leaps, switch leaps, disc jump and reverse leaps

Skills for Performance Team:

- Proper parallel pirouette - single or double
- Grand Battements (left & right, all 3 directions)
- Sauté de chat, second leaps

What to wear/bring?

- Comfortable clothes without writing or logos (NO midriff allowed)
- If wearing shorts they must be spandex, and of a length that does not cause concern
- Dance shoes or tennis shoes *no bare feet or socks allowed in auditions

Constitution of the Fort Mill High School Dance Company

Purpose

The purpose of the FMHS Dance Company is to promote school spirit within the student body and to develop a sense of good sportsmanship and friendship with each other and between other schools during athletic and community events. All team members are representatives of the Fort Mill School District and should display behaviors that will reflect favorably on their program, their school and themselves at all times, at all times (in and out of season).

Tryouts

- All forms must be turned in by **Friday, May 13th.**
- Dancers will participate in auditions the week of May 16-19 in the ROTC gymnasium, located in the R-wing at FMHS. ***No one is allowed to watch auditions.***
- Auditions will be judged by a series of qualified instructors in person and virtually.
- **A list of the new team members will be posted by audition number on Google Classroom: Sunday, May 22nd.**
- Being on the team one year does not guarantee placement on the team the following year.
- Dancers are able to audition and participate in more than one group, but may also streamline into one.
- Students with discipline problems will not be allowed to participate in tryouts. The Coaches, Administration, and Band Staff retain the right to evaluate any questionable situations.

Dance Team Information

- There are 15 spots on the competitive team, but the coaches reserve the right to take more or less based on the natural break in scores.
- Dance Team is a TWO season commitment.
- Dance Team performs on the sidelines of Varsity sporting events and competes regionally & nationally.
- Candidates must be a rising 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th grader enrolled at Fort Mill High School. *There are special considerations made for new/future residents that are able to confirm future address within the FMHS zone.
- Selected members are strongly encouraged to enroll in the 1st semester, 4th block dance class.

Performance Team Information

- There are 25 spots on the performance team.
- Performance Team is a ONE season commitment and students will have the opportunity to audition later in the year for Winterguard which is a separate ONE season commitment.
- Baton Twirlers are invited to audition for featured roles in the Performance Team. Twirlers must be able to complete the required technical dance skills and perform 45 seconds of original twirl choreography.
- Performance Team performs with the marching band at Varsity football games, band competitions and community events.
- Candidates must be rising 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th graders enrolled at Fort Mill High School or Feeder Middle Schools. *There are special considerations made for new/future residents that are able to confirm future address within the FMHS zone.
- Selected members are strongly encouraged to enroll in the 1st semester, 1st block dance class.

Color Guard Information

- Color Guard is the team of dancers using equipment to enhance the band performance. There is not a limited number of places on this team. Guard members are also part of the Performance Team.
- Guard is a ONE season commitment and students will have the opportunity to audition later in the year for Winterguard which is a separate ONE season commitment.
- Color Guard performs with the marching band at Varsity football games, band competitions and community events.
- Candidates must be rising 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, or 12th graders enrolled at Fort Mill High School or Feeder Middle Schools. *There are special considerations made for new/future residents that are able to confirm future address within the FMHS zone.
- Guard members should enroll in the 1st semester, 1st block dance class.

Requirements for Dancers:

- Academic eligibility must be met for each grading period in the current school year of tryouts. Candidates must maintain a C average (preferably above) in all of their classes in order to audition and perform with the team.
- Exhibit maturity, sound judgment, leadership and demonstrate a cooperative attitude.
- Dancers must be able to conduct themselves properly at all times (in and out of season).
- FMHS Company Dancers may not have any visible tattoos (in costume), facial piercing (must be removed for performances) or unnatural hair colors (purple, blue, etc..).
- All social media presence must be clean and appropriate (this includes, but is not limited to SnapChat).
- Be insured through the school or by an individual family policy.
- Each dancer will be responsible for certain fees (see attachment).
- Dancers and parents will be expected to assist with fundraisers as approved by administration.
- Dance team members must be able to commit completely to two sports seasons and all of the additional responsibilities involved with being a dance team member.
- Performance team & Guard members must be able to commit completely to the Fall Semester and all of the additional responsibilities involved with being a member of the FMHS Marching Band.

Games, Practices, and Competitions

- The dance team season runs from auditions in May through the end of basketball season in February. Dancers will be required to participate through all seasons. INCLUDING PLAY OFF GAMES which do not fall on the normal schedule. Performance Team & Color Guard will mirror the marching band schedule.
- All dates are subject to change, but before auditioning...you must be able to commit to the dates set forth on each of the attached calendars. Dancers participating in multiple teams must look at 2 schedules.
- No chewing gum during practice, games, or competitions.
- Practice will be orderly always and closed to the public. The coaches have the right to call any extra practices if necessary. These will still be mandatory!
- Dance technique classes are strongly recommended for members of the dance company, but studio selection is an individual choice and not required. Members are not selected by studio affiliation.
- During a football performance, dance team members will perform on the sidelines. Performance Team will perform in the band stands and during halftime. Members performing with both dance team and performance team will dance on the sidelines 1st, 2nd, 4th quarters and at halftime.
- During a basketball performance the dance team will sit together and cheer and support their classmates that are participating in the sporting event. Dancers may not talk to their friends physically or on cell phones. *Early dismissal for school night performances!
- Attendance is MANDATORY to all scheduled competitions. Unexcused absences are not permitted for competitions and will result in dismissal from the team.
- Transportation to and from tryouts, practices, local performances and other local events is the responsibility of the participant. Parents are expected to pick up by the scheduled time or make alternate arrangements.
- Dancers will run one mile if not prepared or tardy for a practice or an event. Miles owed must be run before a performance. If the dancer does not run their miles owed they will not be allowed to perform until the miles have been completed. Arrangements should be made with coaches in advance.

Attendance

- Camp is mandatory. NO EXCEPTIONS! Please see the attached schedules for a list of dates and potential times.
- Attendance is mandatory at all practices and performances unless cleared by the coaches. (Even if the dancer is sick or leaves school early...the coaches must be notified). If the coaches are not notified by the dancer/parent **BEFORE** the absence occurs:
 - The absence will be unexcused even if it is medical
 - The dancer will not be allowed to perform the dance that was worked on at practice
- All excused absences require a doctor's note. Excused absences follow the school guidelines and include personal illness or death in the family. Although absences may be excused, if the absences affect the dancer's ability to successfully learn the routine for a performance, the coaches will determine if participation in the event is allowed.

- Dancers are allowed 2 unexcused appearances (practice, performance, fundraiser) during the semester. Dancers who work or have outside commitments must see that their schedule does not conflict with performances or practice. This includes other dance commitments!
- If a dancer is absent the day before a performance (excused or unexcused) the dancer will not be allowed to perform. The only exceptions are school field trips.
- Dancers are encouraged to participate in clubs and school activities; however these activities should not interfere with practices or performance and multiple tardies, early dismissals, and/or absences are unacceptable.
- Dancers must be at school for at least ½ of the day in order to participate in practice or performance.
- Homework/studying is not an excused absence!
- Scheduled doctor's appointments must be made around the dance schedule...this includes during class time!
- Anticipated absences must be approved 2 weeks in advance (the earlier the better).
- Leaving early and arriving late to events (practice) will be tracked and can accumulate into an unexcused absence.
- Exceptions will be made in case of an emergency, but **communication is key**. Dancers are expected to be mature enough to balance their schedules and communicate with the coaches and captain directly (before parent contact has been made).

Academics & Conduct

1. Academic excellence must be maintained throughout the school year. Dancers must maintain a C average or higher in all classes in order to perform with the team. Dancers who do not meet the requirement for the grading period will be on probation until the grade is brought to the minimum average. If the grade is not brought up by the following grading period the dancer will be dismissed from the team. Any first semester FINAL grades that do not meet the minimum requirement will be dismissed from the team.
2. Conduct in the classroom should be of a caliber, which sets a good example to other students and the faculty.
3. Dancers should always conduct themselves properly. Behavior that is unbecoming while in uniform and/or during which times they are representing their school consists of things such as: smoking, drinking, using abusive language, making obscene gestures, and public display of affection. Disciplinary action or dismissal from the team may occur.
4. Drama is unacceptable and unwelcome. Any member (or parent) that causes dissent among the Dance Company will result in the dancer being dismissed.
5. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat and other social media websites of which a dancer is a member should ever present unbecoming information about themselves, others or the team. This includes inappropriate language, pictures, comments, etc... Disciplinary action or dismissal from the team will occur. **In addition, fake accounts are not allowed and any dancer who has one will be dismissed.**
6. The social media clause is extended to others (friends, frenemies, etc...) posts as well. Bottom line...do not do anything that will reflect poorly on you, your family, team, or school. Retweets, shares, and commenting on inappropriate posts also fall into this category.
7. The coaches have the authority to suspend or drop permanently any dancer who does not present themselves in a professional manner 100% of the time.
8. All dancers and parents will be asked to sign a behavior contract if selected.

Uniforms

1. Dancers are responsible for their issued costumes. Any costumes that are not returned or are not returned in its issued condition will be charged to the dancer.
2. Dancers must buy their own camp wear, performance bottoms, shoes, tights, jackets, etc... There will be mandatory fundraising throughout the dance season that may help with some of these expenses.
3. Uniforms may only be worn by members of the dance team.
4. At all performances, dancers are to be dressed in full as instructed by the captain or coaches at the time agreed upon and designated by the coach. Dancers who are not dressed correctly will not be allowed to perform.

Disciplinary Action:

1. Consistently poor performance, excessive talking during games and failure in any way to participate with the dance team will result in disciplinary action.

2. The coach, athletic director, band director and principal will evaluate situations that arise that are not covered by existing rules. Appropriate disciplinary action will be taken according to the circumstance at hand.
3. Offenses that will result in automatic dismissal from the dance company:
 - a. Alcohol, smoking or the use of illegal drugs
 - b. Contact fighting
 - c. Profanity
 - d. Blatant disrespect to coaches or school faculty
 - e. Behavior that may affect the reputation of the team or cause dissent among the team, including social media posts.
 - f. Consistently poor grades
 - g. Disciplinary action from school administration or police officials
4. Any dancer dismissed from the team will not be permitted to audition again the following year.
5. Dancers that are dismissed will be required to complete any financial obligations and reimburse the Dance Company for any expense paid by the team account.

Estimated Costs 2022-2023 FMHS Dance Team

*A detailed list will be provided after the new team has been selected. Some items may have been purchased in previous years and will not need to be repurchased. In addition, some items or events will be covered by the FMDT. If a dancer leaves the team before the conclusion of the season (dismissed or voluntary), financial reimbursement will be required for any and all items AND events that were covered by fundraising. All orders are due by **JUNE 1st** unless otherwise noted below and must be paid in full before the dancer will receive their item.

Camp:	\$450
Summer Conditioning:	\$175
Gear:	\$200
Uniforms: (Tops provided by FMHS)	\$200
Reserve Fund:	\$25
District Activity Fee	\$100 <i>*due 1st day of school– to be paid online through the <u>athletic website!</u></i>

Dancers will be responsible for having the following items that may be previously owned or purchased from any dance store:

- Skin tone jazz shoe (slip on style)
- Black jazz shoe (slip on style)
- Footed Tights that match skin tone
- Black Footed Tights or Long Black Socks
- Black Hot Shorts w/ Elastic in Leg

Estimated Costs

2022-2023 FMHS Performance Team & Color Guard

*A detailed list will be provided after the new team has been selected. Some items may have been purchased in previous years and will not need to be repurchased. In addition, some items or events will be covered by the FMDT. If a dancer leaves the team before the conclusion of the season (dismissed or voluntary), financial reimbursement will be required for any and all items AND events that were covered by fundraising. All orders are due by **JUNE 1st** unless otherwise noted below and must be paid in full before the dancer will receive their item.

Band Fee:	*\$600 (this is the max)
Summer Conditioning:	*\$175 (optional)
Gear:	\$200
Reserve Fund:	\$25
District Activity Fee	\$100 <i>*due 1st day of school– to be paid online through the <u>athletic website!</u></i>

Dancers will be responsible for having the following items that may be previously owned or purchased from any dance store:

Jazz Shoe Color will be determined after costumes
Footed Tights that match skin tone

DANCE TEAM DATES 2022-2023

- Parent Meeting: Monday, May 23rd @6:30 pm
- Summer Conditioning: 7-8 am

May 31 or June 2	Screening
June 7	Stability
June 8	VIRTUAL
June 9	Control
June 14	Endurance
June 15	VIRTUAL
June 16	Rotation + opposition
June 21	Power
June 22	VIRTUAL
June 23	Power
June 28	Agility
June 29	VIRTUAL
June 30	Precision

- Summer Practices:
 - Boot Camp - May 31-June 2, times TBA
 - Pre-Camp Rehearsals - July 18 & 19, times TBA, but plan on all day!
- UDA summer camp will be held, July 20-23 @Lander University
- NOT MANDATORY - SCDA College Combine - Saturday, July 30th
- Regular Season Practices: Tuesdays & Thursdays 4-5:30 *this time should be available in the dancers' schedules ALL season! Please do not register for studio classes, or plan work shifts during this time that will conflict!!! Allow travel time to your evening obligations.
- Football: Varsity - Fridays @ 7:30 (arrive by 7:00) *see attached schedule
- NOT MANDATORY - SCDA Conference (Myrtle Beach) - November 10-13
- Basketball*: Tuesdays & Fridays @ 6:30 & 8:00 *Occasionally we have a Monday/Wednesday game
- Competition Dates
 - Capital City Dance Team Championship/Dutch Fork Competition – January 14, 2023
 - St. James HS Competition - January 28, 2023
 - *Wildcat Classic - February 4, 2023
 - *UDA National Dance Team Championship - February 3-5, 2023 (alternate *NDA - March 4-6)
 - SCDA State Competition - February 18, 2023
- Fundraising – 3 MANDATORY fundraising events
 - October 15th – FMDT Invitational Competition
 - December 10th – Breakfast with Santa (Friday, 9th set-up)
 - January 3rd – Jacket Dynasty Dance Camp
- Community Events
 - Christmasville - December 3, Time TBA

PERFORMANCE COMPANY & COLOR GUARD DATES 2022-2023

- Parent Meeting: Monday, May 23rd @7:30 pm
- Summer Conditioning: 7-8 am

May 31 or June 2	Screening
June 7	Stability
June 8	VIRTUAL
June 9	Control
June 14	Endurance
June 15	VIRTUAL
June 16	Rotation + opposition
June 21	Power
June 22	VIRTUAL
June 23	Power
June 28	Agility
June 29	VIRTUAL
June 30	Precision

- Summer Practices:
 - Guard Camp - July 18-22, times TBA
 - Dance Camp - July 25-28, times TBA
 - Band Camp - August 1-5, times TBA
- NOT MANDATORY - SCDA College Combine - Saturday, July 30th
- Regular Season Practices: Tuesdays 6:00 - 9:00 *this time should be available in the dancers' schedules ALL season! Please do not register for studio classes, or plan work shifts during this time that will conflict!!! Allow travel time to your evening obligations.
- Football: Varsity - Fridays @ 7:30 (arrive by 6:15) *see attached schedule
- NOT MANDATORY - SCDA Conference (Myrtle Beach) - November 10-13
- **Competition Dates**
 - **September 24** - Low Country Invitational @ Wando HS
 - **October 8** - BOA Regional - College Park, MD
 - **October 15** - Blue Devil Classic @ Mooresville HS
 - **November 5** - SCBDA 5A State Championships - Irmo HS
- Fundraising –
 - TBA by band events
- Community Events
 - Carolina Exhibition @ NFHS - September 17
 - Community Preview - October 1
 - Community Show & Senior Night - October 29
 - Fort Mill Christmas Parade - December 3

2022 FMHS Varsity Football Schedule

8/19/22	Catawba Ridge	Home	7:30
8/26/22	Chester	Home	7:30
<i>(9/9/22</i>	<i>Indian Land</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>7:30)</i>
<i>(9/16/22</i>	<i>Lugoff-Elgin</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>7:30)</i>
9/23/22	York	Home	7:30
<i>(9/30/22</i>	<i>Blythewood</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>7:30)</i>
<i>(10/7/22</i>	<i>Rock Hill</i>	<i>Away</i>	<i>7:30)</i>
10/14/22	Spring Valley	Home	7:30 (Homecoming)
10/21/22	Clover	Home	7:30 (Senior Night)
10/28/22	Nation Ford	Away	7:30 (Upperclassmen)

ANTICIPATED TESTING DATES 2022-2023

SAT DATES:

August 27, 2022

October 1, 2022

November 5, 2022

December 3, 2022

March 11, 2023

May 6, 2023

June 3, 2023

ACT DATES:

June 11, 2022

July 16, 2022

September 10, 2022

October 22, 2022

December 10, 2022

February 11, 2023

READY TO DANCE?



FMHS Dance Company

- All teams will audition the week of May 16th
- Students are able to audition and participate with more than one group
- All teams will be required to complete summer conditioning in addition to specialized training camps
- Commitment and preparation are crucial, so please review each calendar extensively before auditions.



Please contact Mrs. Hagen at dukeshagene@fortmillschools.org if you have any questions!